DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE AND ALL ITS KINDRED ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Agriculture not only gives riches to a nation, but the only riches she can call her own.—JOHNSON.

VOL. II. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1850. NO. 23.

S. W. COLE, EDITOR. QUINCY HALL, BOSTON. J. NOURSE, PROPRIETOR.

ANNIVERSARY OF CAMBRIDGE CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY, October 23d, was the first anniversary of the Cambridge Cattle Market. In one short year this market has grown from a small beginning of a few hundred cattle, and a few hundred sheep, to thousands in each of these departments. At this anniversary (and the market was no larger on this account) there were 3019 cattle, and 7580 sheep at market. The demand for pens, which caused the erection of one hundred and thirty-seven new ones this season, shows how rapid has been the increase of this market. Its peculiar location in regard to travelling and transportation, by land, by railroad, and by water, and its immediate location for pleasantness and nearness to a large city, seem to point out this spot as destined to become one of the largest markets in the world.

Mr. Porter, who keeps the hotel at this market, has been very enterprising and generous in building pens at his own expense, costing several thousand dollars, and taxing nothing for their use. At this anniversary, Mr. Porter, without any previous announcement of his intention, invited about six hundred market men, and some other guests, to an excellent dinner; but an excellent dinner at this hotel is no unusual thing, as the host is distinguished as a liberal caterer, and, like a good soldier, ready at a short notice. We are happy to find that this undertaking, which offers facilities and advantages to numerous producers and dealers in stock, has flourished so well, and promises so fair for the future. See report on another page.

ADVANTAGES OF SCIENCE.

A valuable horse was recently injured in this city by a wheel passing over his foot. Dr. Dadd, a skilful veterinary surgeon, advised killing the horse, as the *os coronet* was crushed. The parties concerned were astonished at this opinion, as the foot retained its usual form, and there was no external injury, but merely a slight mark. Yet the advice was followed. The owner of the trespassing team paid for the horse; he was killed, and the foot saved for inspection. We have examined it, and find that the bone was thoroughly crushed, it now being in nineteen pieces. The advantages of science are seen in this case; for, without this light, the horse might have been subjected to excruciating pain, and a heavy bill incurred for *doctoring*, keeping, &c.

PREPARE FOR A HARD WINTER.

A very careful observer of the signs of the times remarks that we shall have an early, a long, and a hard winter. He considers the principal indications of this, the early heavy rains this fall, by which the earth has become fully saturated with water, and the streams, swamps, and fountains well filled.

Whether there is any thing in these signs or not, it is best to prepare for the worst, and there can be no disadvantage in being ready for a hard winter. If too much fuel be prepared, it will answer for future use. If the cellar be made unusually warm, the temperature can be moderated, if there be too much warmth. Should the farmer provide fodder for his stock beyond what they consume, it will be but a trifling disadvantage, compared with starving stock and an empty barn, or paying extravagant prices for hay to finish wintering too large a stock. So we hope that all will be cautious, and prepare for a surly blast from old Boreas; and if it come not, so much the better for us.

NATIVE AND WILD GRAPES.

In our last number, we acknowledged the receipt of a good native grape from Lynn. A correspondent infers from our remarks, that we considered it better than some of our best standard varieties. It is a wild grape, and one of the best of its class. We did not intend to say that it was equal to the Isabella, Diana, Catawba, &c. Most of our wild grapes are unpalatable, owing to their astringency, acidity, and pungent musky or foxy taste. Occasionally we find

one that is less objectionable in these respects, and such is the case with the grape in question.

It would be well to make a distinction in our grapes, calling all from the forests and fields wild grapes, and those raised from seed, natives or seedlings. We will endeavor to be definite in future; yet it is proper to remark that some natives are as unpleasant as the wild, often yielding the same, or nearly the same, from seed.

TIME FOR SECURING ROOTS.

It is best to secure beets early in November, before we have very hard frosts, as they often project above the ground, and are injured by freezing. Carrots will endure severer frosts without injury. As the white carrot grows partly above ground, it is more readily injured by hard frosts than other varieties.

Turnips and cabbages are better for remaining out late. The time that they should be secured in this climate is the middle of this month. Sometimes the weather for harvesting these vegetables continues fine till the 20th or 25th, but this is uncertain. It is better to be ready in season for snows, cold storms, and hard frosts.

POTATOES.

Notwithstanding the great destruction of potatoes by the rot in most parts of the country, the market here is pretty well supplied, though at rather high prices. Potatoes are brought into the market from the provinces east, from the region around Lake Champlain, from New Jersey, and various other sections, where the rot was not very severe. Apples, turnips, beets, carrots, and squashes are generally plenty, and are very good substitutes for the potato. Sweet potatoes are plenty in our market, and some persons prefer them to the common potato.

Salt as Manure. *A Great Mistake.* — In a late article on this subject, we recommended, for asparagus, one hundred and sixty bushels to the acre, or one bushel to the square rod. The article has been copied extensively, and in some cases there has been an omission, so that it reads *one hundred and sixty bushels to the square rod.* Those who have made this mistake will please correct.

The copper mines near Litchfield, Connecticut, are being worked with increasing success. The ore extracted yields a large percentage of pure copper, and no doubt now remains, that, as the miners penetrate deeper into the bowels of the mountain, the ore will be found to be of a richer and better quality.

A farmer should never be so immersed in political matters, as to forget to sow his wheat, dig his potatoes, and bank up his cellar.

FATTENING HOGS.

For several years, I have paid some attention to fattening hogs, and find that they will thrive much faster on corn and sweet potatoes, or on peas and sweet potatoes, than they will on any one of these alone. I am well satisfied, also, that they will fatten much faster on boiled and raw food mixed, than they will on either separate.

The year before last, I turned my hogs into a potato patch, and every evening fed them with corn. Under this treatment, the old hogs soon got very fat; but in the lot there were ten long-legged pigs not a year old, which, at the time I killed the old ones, were in as good order for running races, perhaps, as hogs could be put in for that purpose. I despaired of making them fat enough for bacon; but as I did not wish to keep them another year, I determined to try what effect cooked food would have on them, as I was well convinced that they could not be made fat on raw corn and potatoes; and with this view, I put them into a close pen, with sufficient pine straw in it to keep the hogs from the dirt. I then boiled sweet potatoes until they would mash up freely, into which I stirred corn meal until the whole became mush; and after feeding them on this, until they appeared satisfied, I gave them corn, then raw potatoes, and sometimes turnips with the tops on. Under this treatment they fattened faster than I had ever seen hogs before. In two weeks after I put them into the close pen, they were fat enough for any use — fatter than they ever could have been made on corn at that age, or on any one kind of food.

Hogs ought never to be put on a floor of plank, nor rails, if pine straw can be had; because they cannot be made comfortable on a floor of wood. Fill the pen two feet deep with pine straw, and when it becomes foul, put in more straw. In this way the hogs can be made comfortable, and no part of the manure lost.

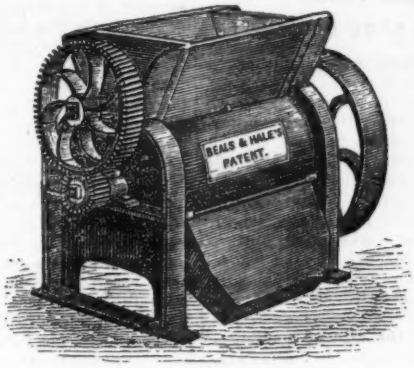
A. E. ERNEST.

Macon, Ga., *July*, 1850.
— *American Agriculturist.*

IMPROVEMENT IN BRICKS.

The London Patent Journal states that Mr. Henry Roberts, of Hyde Park, London, has taken out a patent for a new kind of bricks, which are so made that there will be no vertical joints in the wall which may be built of them, as are now made by the headers, where the English and Flemish *bonds* are used. The bricks are made hollow, to be lighter. They are made so that one side of the brick is inclined to the top or the bottom, or the one part projecting beyond the other; so that one brick being laid, the other is to be reversed, so that the projecting sides of the bricks will fit into one another, to bond the work, using only stretchers to avoid vertical joints. We do not believe that this invention will come into use. The hollow brick will be lighter, and should be easier fired than the solid brick, and on that account may have advantages; but the dovetailing form will be rather a detriment than a benefit to the mason. — *Farmer and Mechanic.*

Agricultural Papers. — The American Agriculturist says, that of the twenty million inhabitants of this country, — more than three fourths of whom are engaged in agricultural and horticultural pursuits, and most of whom obtain their entire support from these avocations, — not one in two thousand (and we much doubt if there is one in three thousand) subscribes for and reads a purely agricultural paper!



BEAL'S PATENT CORN-CRACKER AND COB-CRUSHER.

This machine is used for cracking cobs and corn previous to passing through the millstones, and for reducing the same for provender; and for cracking corn alone, suitable for hominy and for stock.

This is a valuable invention, as it is remarkably compact, very durable, uniform in its work, and economical in power. Its height, when set up, is two feet eleven inches. It will crack cobs and corn as fast as a mill will grind them.

The experience of the most intelligent men in the farming community shows the great utility of grinding cobs with the corn, for cattle, horses, and sheep. These animals are accustomed to coarse fodder; and when fed on corn separate from the cob, the food is too much condensed, and there is a lack of bulk to the food, to give the stimulus of distention. Besides this advantage, there is nutriment in the cobs, as has been abundantly shown by the production of alcohol by fermentation and distillation. And when cobs have been boiled and fed to cattle, they have made a great saving of food, and kept the animals in a healthy condition.

MANAGEMENT AND PROFIT OF FOWLS.

Since the exhibition of fowls last November, there has been a great interest shown in regard to the different breeds of hens and their management. It is a subject of more or less interest to every reader of your paper. Most persons are trying to obtain the largest hens. I think that small hens are much more profitable as layers. They will lay more eggs than those of the large breeds, and they can be kept at half the expense of those that are extremely large. My object is to obtain the hens that will yield the most eggs according to the expense. I have purchased a pair of Poland Topknots, from which to raise stock for the next year. They weigh about seven pounds to the pair.

I will now give you an account of my management the past winter. I kept twenty-five hens and a protector, of the native breed. My pullets that were hatched in April commenced laying in November, and those hatched in May began to lay in December. I have not kept an account of the number of eggs laid during the winter. The first week in January they laid ninety-one eggs. In the first two weeks in February, they laid one hundred and ninety-two eggs. I sold the eggs at fifteen cents per dozen; and, during the winter, the cost of keeping the hens was only equal to two fifths the value of the eggs.

I give my hens corn and cob meal every day, mixed in milk or hot water. I kept corn, barley, and oats by them all the time; I also kept by them ashes, lime, and oyster shells. Raw meat was given to them every day; I kept all the egg-shells during the summer, and gave them to the hens in the winter. I kept my hens in a house twenty by fifteen feet, with a large window in the south side. I find no difficulty in making my hens lay in winter; most people fail by neglecting to supply animal food, as a substitute for the numerous insects which they devour in summer.

Hens should be left out a few hours every day when the ground is bare. The best layers should be selected as breeders, and the protector changed every year. Grain should be kept by hens all times during the year. The principal reason that some farmers find no profit in keeping hens, is because they only half feed them; therefore they are always in mischief, scratching for food. When farmers plant corn, they should give their hens a good supply, and they will not scratch it up. If hens are well managed, they afford more net profit than any other stock. Young hens should always be kept over, as they will lay better in winter than old hens. — *Mass. Ploughman.*

FOWL EXHIBITION.

On our cover is a full advertisement of this show. Particular attention should be paid to the arrangement. Let every one who can, aid in making this not only one of the greatest, but *the* greatest of fowl exhibitions ever held in any country. Let every breed, and every valuable variety, be represented. Those persons who cannot contribute to the show, may encourage the enterprise by visiting it.

The present price of wheat in France is ninety-one cents a bushel! In New York it is one dollar and forty cents. This fact will explain why it is that France is just now sending into European markets a vast deal more wheat and flour than the United States.

For the New England Farmer.

"STUDY TO HAVE A LARGE DUNGHILL."

Mr. Cole: The value of farm-yard manure seems to be generally admitted. Its application to the soil lies at the very root of success in husbandry. With it, the farmer can accomplish every thing that others have done before him; without it, he is as though his hands were tied; he can do nothing. It is his capital, which, when safely invested and prudently managed, will ere many days return to him with interest. In all ages of the world has its worth been recognized; and those ancient works on agriculture that have come down to us abound in allusions to its importance, and give curiously minute instructions for its preservation and use. The ancients justly thought that the character of a farmer can best be ascertained by comparing the size of his dunghill with the number of acres he has in cultivation. They all agree in calling it the basis of his prosperity, and the source of domestic comfort and happiness.

But how forgetful of all this are thousands of the *farmers* who make it a boast that they live in the enlightened nineteenth century — many of them claiming to be men of intelligence and sagacity! They appear to think their land does not require a good supply of nutriment, in order to produce an abundant crop. They actually starve their land, while they would not be willing to starve their cattle. They very well know that a poorly-fed ox is not able to labor, and cannot be converted into prime beef, as well as that milk cannot be expected from a cow which is kept on a scanty pasture; and furthermore, that both the quality and the quantity of beef and milk are in proportion to the excellence of the food given. The profit is large or small according to the manner in which the animals may be kept; and surely no profit can be realized where the owner's care is simply to sustain the breath of life. Precisely so is it with cultivated land: it requires nutriment the same as a cow or an ox; and when not kindly treated, it can no more yield a liberal return, than either of those animals can, without being well fed, furnish good milk and beef.

A new soil, that is, one which has long lain idle, may produce several good crops without the assistance of manure; but so soon as the elements of fertility are consumed, unless some fertilizer be applied, it becomes barren, and must be allowed to lie fallow until it can abstract from the atmosphere that of which it has been robbed by the shiftless husbandman. It can be exhausted, just as a source is in the course of time emptied, when it is subject to a constant drain, and never replenished; it can be "worn out," like a man in the prime of life becoming faint and feeble from the want of food. A good soil, in the hands of a good farmer, is more generous than the purse, which restores that only with which it has been intrusted. It acts the part of the faithful servant, who, in returning the five talents to his lord, adds thereto the other five talents which the first have gained while in his care. It is the honest banker, who is, at the appointed day, ready with both principal and interest for the depositor. If it be properly managed, it is sure to be found liberal; but where nothing is given it, nothing can be expected in return. Cato, one of the teachers of Roman agriculture, said the first point in good tillage is to plough, the second is to plough, and the third is to manure. Dig your land well, manure it according to its wants, and you may trust to Providence for a rich reward. The soil will not then lose its fertility; and you should continue improving its character until further improvement becomes impracticable. This is the pleasure, this the profit, of husbandry.

From the foregoing, it appears that farm-yard manure is of some value; that it is necessary to the support of vegetation, as well as to the maintenance of fertility in the soil. Without it or a substitute, the land cannot produce grass, grain, or roots, either in abundance or of good quality; and as without these there can be no beef, mutton, milk, &c., both the farmer's family and his stock must perish. The conclusion is obvious: if manure be so essential to the support of life and worldly prosperity, how valuable is it, how highly ought it to be prized! — Nothing can be plainer. We estimate the value of some things very properly; we do not throw away, or expose to the access of thieves, our dollars and eagles, because we know that, when once lost, they come not to our possession again. As money has a fixed, ascertained value, farmers are apt to look after it carefully. No class of people can be more prudent and economical in its disposition, not spending a cent unnecessarily, nor suffering the opportunity of gaining a sixpence to escape. Even as money has a fixed value, so has manure; it can be sold for cash, or can be brought to market after having been converted into wheat, flour, potatoes, or pork. It is the natural food of the soil, without which it is sterile and unprofitable. And yet these same farmers, who are so provident as regards cents and sixpences, seem to care little or nothing about the proper management of their barn-yards. While each one is careful to keep a strict watch upon his breeches pocket, he is perhaps annually suffering dollars' worth of manure to be wasted on his premises. Having a cash value, either in its natural state or in the shape of "produce," it deserves as much attention as the silver and gold; and to waste the one is quite as foolish, ay, as culpable, as to waste the other.

Though the value of manure is generally understood, and will be universally admitted, yet many of our farmers manifest almost a perfect indifference as to its preservation. Such men can always be identified by their unproductive fields, and by granaries that do not overflow at harvest time. They do not realize the importance of saving all the manure made by their stock, and suffer portions of it to be dropped in lanes and public highways, while the remainder is spread over large barn-yards, as though it were desirable to expose it as much as possible to the atmosphere. That which falls in the road is of course altogether lost, while the most valuable parts of that in the yard are abstracted by the sun and rain. In a hot day, the ammonia rises in such quantities as to annoy the passing traveller; and after a shower, a little stream of rich, highly-colored water may be seen running off to fertilize the fields of a neighbor. This is a serious loss; for those gases that escape in the air, and the "liquid extract" that drains off upon another's land, would, if retained, greatly augment the future crop. It may be easily discovered that this is a total loss, by observing the diminished pile of dung. Farmers might with the same propriety leave the doors of their corn-cribs opened wide, so as to invite the entrance, and tempt the honesty, of every vagabond. No banker would consider the contents of his vaults safe, unless they were under the guardianship of lock and key. No prudent person would trust in his pocket the hand of a stranger, unless, indeed, *the pocket happened to be empty*. Now, why should not the hard-working husbandman be just as particular to protect the treasure of his barn-yard against those notorious thieves called the elements?

We say to you all, brother farmers, look to your manure heaps. Make it your endeavor to save every ounce of the dung and urine that come from your cattle. It perhaps cannot be expected that you will succeed in preserving the whole, but you will have cause for self-congratulation if you avoid only one half of the loss that your neighbors sustain. This is

by no means a difficult matter. In the first place, it ought to be your object to *get* all the manure you can. Therefore, instead of permitting the stock to spend the whole of the day in winter idle in the field, or chased up and down the road by vagrant curs and idle urchins, keep them in the yard, which should be of sufficient extent to allow them room for exercise, and thus you will have their excrements secure in your possession. Let your hogs be at work in turning over the refuse of the premises, such as weeds, leaves, sods, &c., that you have thrown in the pens, and converting it into excellent manure. A clever pig can in this way be made to earn a good part of his living. You must, in the next place, try to save what you have got, and to increase its bulk. The dung ought not to be spread over the whole yard, but, on the contrary, to be gathered in a heap, or heaps, so that no greater portion may be exposed to atmospheric influences than is absolutely necessary. Instead of leaving it to suffer from sun and rain, keep it in the cellar of your barn, or in a shed which can be made with rough boards at a trifling expense. If you cannot give it such protection, then, at least, cover it over with muck or loam, to retain the rising gases. Where the urine that falls in the cattle sheds is not conducted to a cistern or tank, it may be absorbed by some fresh earth, forest leaves, or refuse litter. The mixture of these materials with the dung and urine is beneficial rather than injurious, as fermentation is thereby moderated, and the loss of the most important parts is prevented, so that the whole quantity becomes of nearly an equal value. By following up this course for a few weeks, you will be surprised to see how easily and cheaply you have increased the bulk of your manure heap, and in the coming harvest your heart will rejoice in the prospect of a well-filled garner. To every agriculturist in the land, we say, in the language of good old father Cato, "*Study to have a large dunghill.*"

C. C., Jr.

Hawthorn Hedges, N. J., *Oct.* 17, 1850.

For the New England Farmer.

NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURE.

Mr. Editor: Permit a New-Yorker, who has just returned from a tour through a portion of New England, to express, through the columns of your journal, the gratification he has experienced at witnessing the improvements in agricultural and rural matters, which have taken place there in the last four or five years. Although Nature has not been so lavish in her bounties, and has not bestowed upon your portion of the earth so rich and fertile a soil, or such facilities for its cultivation, as are enjoyed in other parts of the Union, a substitute has been provided, in the industry, intelligence, and enterprise of your people; who have converted your rocky and barren wastes into productive and fertile fields, and introduced a system of culture in many places highly successful.

To one who has been accustomed to look upon the larger farms of Central and Western New York, and to witness the agricultural operations there carried on upon a more extensive scale, and who has recently travelled over the vast prairies and expanded plains of the *Great West*, your New England farms do indeed look small, and seem pinched and contracted. Instead of broad wheat and corn fields, such as we see in the west, not less, in some instances, than two to four hundred acres in a single field, your little patches look small indeed. But as an offset to all these seeming disadvantages, you have a ready market in your own immediate neighborhood, prices double those obtained by the western farmer, and, what is of still greater moment, you are favored with all the advantages of society and social position. You have churches, schools, and all the institutions calculated to improve and elevate the minds of your citizens, almost at your own doors — privileges which are denied, to some extent at least, to many citizens in the new states.

In the cultivation of the soil, even in New England, where, if any where, perfection ought long ago to have been reached, there has been, it appears to me, evident improvement. The crops are better, and the farms look better, than in former years. In many places the stones have been converted into fence, the bushes have been destroyed, and fields heretofore worthless rendered productive and profitable. But the changes which strike a stranger most forcibly, and which are giving to many of your towns an appearance of beauty seldom equalled, are to be observed in the vicinity of the cities and larger villages. The rapid multiplication of fine country residences, the taste and beauty with which the surrounding grounds are laid out, and the fine order in which they are kept, have given to New England a reputation wider than her limits, and highly creditable to her citizens. In this respect she is far in advance of other sections of the Union, not perhaps in the magnificence and expense of dwellings, but in the simple good taste, harmony, and keeping, which are every where displayed.

The exhibition of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics' Association closed before I reached Boston, so that I was deprived of witnessing a show which is spoken of, on all hands, as highly creditable to the institution and to the state. You can hardly appreciate the regret experienced on account of my inability to reach Boston in time to witness the exhibition. As a small recompense, and determined to see some of the sights, I found my way into the weekly show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, at its hall in School Street. Although disappointed in the quantity of articles on exhibition, the exceeding beauty and apparent excellence of the fruits on the tables made up for any defects, and I left the hall impressed with the fact that you need not go beyond your own neighborhood for the finest fruits. Such peaches, grapes, and pears it has seldom been my good fortune to see, and I doubt not they would have tasted far better than they looked.

Not the least agreeable was that portion of my stay in the city devoted to an examination of the agricultural implements in the extensive warehouse of Ruggles, Nourse, Mason, & Co., in Quincy Hall. Such a collection can hardly be found elsewhere in the country; and to those gentlemen is the highest credit due for the great improvements in this branch of industry. For nothing has the intelligent farmer greater cause to be thankful, than for suitable, appropriate, and neatly-made implements, increasing as they do, not only the pleasures, but the profits, of agricultural labor.

I fear, Mr. Editor, that the object with which I commenced this article has led me into a longer *talk* than was contemplated, or than you can find room for in your columns; if so, I can only promise not to trespass again. Respectfully yours,

C.

Rome, N. Y., *Oct.* 18, 1850.

Substitute for Soap. — A late French author recommends potatoes, three fourths boiled, as a substitute for soap, in washing hands. The use of this prevents chapping in cold weather, and retains the skin soft and healthy.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

CAMBRIDGE CATTLE MARKET.

ANNUAL REPORT.

There have been at this market during the year ending Oct. 22, 1850, — 56,144 cattle, of which about 28,814 were beeves, and 27,330 stores, consisting of working oxen, cows and calves, yearlings, two and three years old. There have also been at market 168,204 sheep and lambs, 7,678 swine, 1,245 horses, and a large number of fowls and veal calves, not numerically calculated.

Extra cattle, and sheep and lambs, have generally been brisk, and sold readily at fair prices; but the market for the inferior qualities of cattle has been variable. Some days it has been active, and good prices were realized; at other times it has been dull, and sales slow.

Since the first of last January (less than ten months) 2,843 cars have come over the Fitchburg railroad, and 1,447 over the Boston and Lowell railroad, loaded with cattle, sheep, horses, swine, and fowls.

No. from each State during the Year.

	Cattle.	Sheep and Lambs.	Swine.	Horses.
Maine,	17,233	14,056		24
New Hampshire,	13,411	48,371	15	69
Vermont,	17,914	88,442	1,381	418
Massachusetts,	5,749	14,657	431	237
New York,	511	1,043	5,733	15
Canada,	1,326	1,635		482
Ohio,			118	
Total,	56,144	168,204	7,678	1,245

This market is within four miles of Boston. Operations were commenced about one year ago, since which time it has increased in business and importance with unexampled rapidity. It contains one hundred and eighty-eight yards, for the accommodation of cattle and sheep, one hundred and thirty-seven of which have been built the present season, with convenient lanes leading to all of them; the whole covering an area of twelve or fourteen acres. The yards are all free, no charge ever having been made for the use of any of them. The Fitchburg railroad, which connects with the Vermont and Massachusetts, the Cheshire, the Rutland and Burlington, the Sullivan, Central, Ogdensburg, and the Connecticut River and Passumpsic railroads, passes through these yards. By means of these roads, cattle, &c., are brought from Canada, New York, all parts of Vermont, from New Hampshire and Massachusetts, and landed from the cars direct into the yards. The Fitchburg Railroad Corporation have now nearly completed two side tracks for the accommodation of the cattle trains, where they will be able to run off of the main track about ninety cars, which can remain there until wanted.

The Boston and Lowell railroad, which connects with the Northern, and several other railroads leading through the different sections of New Hampshire, has a spacious cattle depot at Somerville, within two hundred rods of the market, with an extensive side track for running off the cattle trains from the main track; and all other requisite conveniences for landing and yarding the cattle, sheep, &c. The eastern drovers, also, coming from Maine and New Hampshire, who drive their cattle on foot, find in this market a desideratum long desired.

From the foregoing statistics, it will readily be seen that nature seems to have pointed to this spot, with an index not to be mistaken, as the most suitable location for the great Cattle Fair of New England.

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 1850.

For the New England Farmer.

THE POTATO ROT.

Mr. Editor: I have a fact to state, in regard to this disease, and wish to know if you or your readers have noticed similar facts this year. In the town of Stonington, Ct., there is a very general complaint of this disease, and I have yet heard of but two pieces of land exempt. These are peat swamps, redeemed by ditching. One of these was planted late on account of the water, and was manured only with coarse sea-weed. The potatoes are of fair size, and without any appearance of rot. If too much moisture be the cause of the disease, why is this piece of land, in a season so wet, entirely free from it? Has the superabundance of carbon in the peat any thing to do with it? Is the gradual exhaustion of carbon in the soil by successive cropping, one of the causes of this disease? It seems to me that facts, in a season so generally visited with this blight as the present, are worthy of particular notice, and may help us to some better knowledge of the cause and cure of the disease.

STONINGTON.

Remarks. — The facts mentioned by our correspondent have been noted in Ireland. Peat has a wonderful preservative quality, so that it protects the potato from disease, even under the serious disadvantage of a wet soil. We should be pleased to have further information as to the effects of raising potatoes in a peaty soil. — Ed.

For the New England Farmer.

CALEF APPLE.

Mr. Cole: I herewith send you a box of apples which were grown on my farm, called by us the *Calef* or *Calf* apple. The original name we do not know, but tradition says that the tree which first produced the fruit, in this section of the country, was grafted by Governor Hancock, of Massachusetts, who brought the scions, and grafted the tree himself, while on a visit at Squire Calef's. The tree is now standing, of a very large size, and has the appearance of one of the "old settlers;" it yet produces well, though it has suffered from neglect. The fruit is of large size, excellent for cooking, and pretty good for eating; in use October and November. The tree is hardy, a great grower, a great bearer, and produces yearly a large amount of fair fruit, fully equal, if not superior, to the Baldwin in productiveness. It blossoms some four or five days later than other trees, so that it is often likely to escape blights from cold, when other fruits fail. All things considered, I regard it as a very desirable variety to cultivate. Yours, &c.,

THOMAS HANNAFORD.

Cape Elizabeth, *Oct.* 22, 1850.

Remarks. — We have tested this apple, by baking and stewing, and find that it is superior for cooking. It is large, and very fair. — Ed.

We do not observe. — If the stars were to appear but one night in a thousand years, how would men believe, and preserve for many generations, the remembrance of God which had been shown! But every night come out these preachers of beauty, and light the universe with their admonishing smile.

NEW SPECIMENS OF GRAIN.

A gentleman from Mariposa states that on entering the San Joaquin Valley, from Los Angelos, in September last, he passed along the eastern banks of Tulare Lake, by a route not travelled previous to that time. He found large and flowing streams emptying into the lake from the east, and numerous well-disposed Indians, with their flocks of cattle and horses. The most singular objects that met his eye were several varieties of grain, which he believes to have never been met with before. One of these resembled barley, and grew in vast quantities, often covering areas of thousands of acres. Another variety was smaller, like millet, but not less beautiful. But the most singular of them all, and equally abundant, was what our informant termed pop-corn. He stated that the natives cut and threshed out large quantities of this, which he supposed they lay up in store. This grain they "*parch*" like pop-corn. — *Pacific News.*

RAISING POTATOES FROM THE BALL.

I took the seed in the fall, put them in paper, and kept them in a dry place. The 1st of April, 1847, I planted the seed in fine, rich earth, in a box in the house, kept them there until the 10th of June, occasionally in the open air, but not under glass, as I had not prepared the means to force them, which I think would be desirable to gain time and size. I then, June 10, planted them in the open ground. I protected the vines the first year from frost, to obtain a longer season until the 1st of November. On digging them, I found some as large as hens' eggs, the largest portion smaller. They produced seven varieties such as I now give you — one like the English red; two like long and round pink eyes; one like the pink eyes, but no red in the eye; one like the dark purple; one like the blue; and one like the lady finger, of large size. The second year, 1848, I planted the seed raised, like other potatoes, but in rich earth, but did not protect them in the fall to increase the growth. The vines were killed before they were entirely mature. I dug them the 20th of October, when they were the usual size of potatoes. This year, the vines were killed by the frost as early as the 2d of October, when they were green and growing vigorously, and I believe they would have been larger. They were dug the 10th of October. One weighed one pound ten ounces; twelve others, twelve pounds ten ounces. The long potatoes are more mealy at one end than the other, which shows they have not their full growth. I do not know the kind of potato from which the seed from the ball was obtained.

The land, half an acre, was a pasture; ploughed once, 1st of May, 1848; carried on eight loads manure from the cow stalls, and eight loads of leached ashes; spread them even, then dragged it well; planted corn about May 10; had a good crop on the half acre; ploughed it in the fall; about May 12, 1849, ploughed, dragged, and planted the half acre without any manure. The soil is fine sandy loam, land rolling, very mellow. The following is the expense of cultivation: Ploughing and tilling the ground, $1 50; seed, six bushels, $3; planting, $1 50; hoeing. $1 50; digging will cost about $3; also, half a barrel of plaster, when up, $1; making the whole expense $10. I am confident that the half acre will yield at least 230 bushels, which, at four shillings the bushel, is $115

Expenses of cultivation,	10
Which leaves a balance of	$105

I am confident I could easily sell the potatoes for the above sum, which would be the nice sum of $210 per acre, for use of land and small capital invested.

The following particulars I consider to be important in the cultivation of potatoes: I ploughed the land six inches deep; planted the potatoes three inches deep, leaving the hills level with the earth, and I planted the rows three feet apart, and the hills two feet from centre to centre, making forty-four hills to the square rod, which gives seven thousand four hundred and eighty hills per acre. Allowing fourteen hills for a bushel, (as some of mine yielded) gives five hundred bushels to the acre. I fully believe that if I had seed from the balls sufficient to have planted an acre, and cultivated them, as I did what I planted, they would have produced at least five hundred bushels this season. My land is mellow; did not plough between the rows, but hoed the weeds up, leaving the hills nearly level with the top of the ground, until the potatoes grew, and then raised the hills above the level. I believe the usual way of ploughing deep between the rows of corn or potatoes is a bad practice, especially in dry seasons; a small cultivator is much preferable.

AARON KILLAM.

— *N. Y. State Transactions.*

PREPARING BONES FOR MANURE — DISSOLVING THEM IN SULPHURIC ACID.

By breaking up the solid and tenacious structure of bones before applying them to the soil, their materials are much more readily appropriated by plants. If applied in the condition in which they are found in the animal, years would elapse before they would thoroughly dissolve and mix their elements with their kindred dust. By the mechanical operations of breaking, crushing, grinding, or sawing, or the chemical change effected by dissolving in sulphuric acid, or by steaming, burning, or fermentation, they are ready, at once, to yield their nutritive properties to the crops.

In this country, bones are generally ground before using as manure. Immense quantities are furnished by the manufacturers of buttons, and other products of bone, and this is so finely divided by sawing and other manipulations, as to need no further preparation. But in Europe, much of the bone is prepared for agricultural purposes by dissolving in sulphuric acid. This is done by mixing two or three parts of water with one of acid. If the bones have been previously crushed, one third their weight of acid will dissolve them; if they have not been previously broken up, then half the quantity may be required. The sulphuric acid is worth, usually, in this market, about two and a half cents per pound, while the bones, especially the refuse ones, in the interior, may be considered as valueless for any other purpose except manure. If there be no means for grinding, then we say decidedly, wherever manure is desirable, (and where is it not?) it will generally pay for dissolving the bones in the acid, if obtainable at the above price. It may, however, be a still more economical preparation to burn them, by which the earthy matters, the phosphates, &c., are all left in the residuum.

The sulphuric acid is, of itself, a fertilizer of much value, and by its application alone, will, under favorable circumstances for its application, produce good returns. We should, however, esteem it, in this country, as too expensive for general use, considering its relative value as compared with our products.

Fermentation of bones is quite as economical as burning, and by this process, fertilizing portions, which would otherwise be expelled and driven off into the atmosphere, will be retained with the earthy matter, and remain to add to the value of the compost

heap. Each of these methods we have more than once detailed in the previous columns of our paper; but the great value of bones, as fertilizers, induces us frequently to recur to it. — *American Agriculturist.*

ANALYSIS OF THE APPLE.

Although apples have been eaten ever since the days of Adam, we believe the chemical composition of them has not, until recently, been determined by actual analysis.

This analysis has been made by J. H. Salisbury, M. D., who has communicated the results to the secretary of the New York State Agricultural Society, and they have been published in the Transactions.

The varieties analyzed were the Tolman Sweeting, Roxbury Russet, Kilham Hill, English Russet, and Rhode Island Greening.

In the ashes of the Roxbury Russet and Rhode Island Greening he found the following mineral substances: —

	Russet.	Greening.
Carbonic acid,	14.11	18.03
Silica, (flint,)	2.278	1.412
Phos. of iron,	1.564	1.277
Phos. acid,	15.057	11.664
Lime,	4.857	4.421
Magnesia,	1.903	2.211
Potash,	34.958	38.440
Soda,	25.173	22.781
Chlorine,	2.300	2.272
Sulphuric acid,	6.889	8.019
Organic matter,	5.021	7.503
	100.000	100.000

Dr. Salisbury observes, that in silica the apple is by no means rich, containing, in the varieties examined, from about 1 to 2.3 per cent.

The phosphate of iron ranges from about 1 to 2.2 per cent.; the phosphoric acid from 11 to 15 per cent.; the lime from about 3 to 5 per cent.; the magnesia from about 1 to 2.2 per cent.; the potash from about 35 to 42 per cent.; the soda from 19.3 to 30.4 per cent.; the chlorine from 1.85 to 2.33 per cent.; and sulphuric acid from 6.65 to 8.02 per cent.

It will be seen, therefore, that the percentage of ashes in the apple is small: 1000 pounds of fresh apple contain about 827 pounds of water, 170.4 pounds of organic matter destroyed by heat, and 2.6 pounds of inorganic matter or ashes.

1000 pounds of dry apple contain between 17 and 18 pounds of water.

100 pounds of the ashes, according to this analysis, deprived of the carbonic acid which is formed when burning, contain 13 pounds of phosphoric acid, 7 pounds sulphuric acid, 38 pounds of potash, and 25 pounds of soda.

The organic materials in the apple are made up principally of a species of gum, and also of sugar and vegetable extract, malic acid, albumen, &c., all of which the doctor has laid down in tables, with their several proportions.

What is the practical use of this analysis? you will say. Why, a guide to the best kinds of manures for your orchard. Supply it with such manures as will afford the materials found in apples, viz.: For phosphoric acid, bones, in the form of burnt bones, or bone dust; sulphuric acid and lime, in the form of plaster of Paris; potash, in the form of ashes, and such like materials, &c., &c. By knowing what are the principal materials of the apple, we can judge better what it requires for food itself, in order to give us the greater return. — *Maine Farmer.*

A CURIOUS FACT.

The relation of the study of plants with agriculture will be well understood by the following extract from Professor Johnston's lectures: —

"It is a fact familiarly known to all of you, in addition to those circumstances by which we can perceive the special functions of any one organ to be modified, that there are many by which the entire economy of the plant is materially and simultaneously affected. On this fact the practice of agriculture is founded, and the various processes adopted by the practical farmer are only so many modes by which he hopes to influence and promote the growth of the whole plant, and the discharge of the functions of all its parts. Though the manures in the soil act immediately through the roots, they stimulate the growth of the entire plant; and though the application of a top-dressing to a crop of young corn or grass may be supposed first to affect the leaf, yet the beneficial result of the experiment depends upon the influence which the application may exercise on any part of the vegetable tissue."

In connection with this part of the subject, he adds, "I shall only further advert to a very remarkable fact mentioned by Sprengel, which seems, if correct, to be susceptible of important practical applications. He states that it has frequently been observed in Holstein, that if, on an extent of level ground sown with corn, some fields be marled, and others left unmarled, the corn on the latter portions will grow less luxuriantly, and will yield a poorer crop than if the whole had been unmarled. Hence, he adds, if the occupier of the unmarled field would not have a succession of poor crops, he must marl his land also. Can it really be that the Deity thus rewards the diligent and improver? Do the plants which grow in a soil in higher condition, take from the air more than their due share of the carbonic acid, or other vegetable food it may contain, and leave to the tenants of the poorer soil a less proportion than they might otherwise draw from it? How many interesting reflections does such a fact as this suggest! What new views does it disclose of the fostering care of the great Contriver — of his kind encouragement of every species of virtuous labor! Can it fail to read us a new and special lesson on the benefits to be derived from the application of skill and knowledge to the cultivation of the soil?"

STEADINESS OF PURPOSE.

In whatever you engage, pursue it with a steadiness of purpose, as though you were determined to succeed. A vacillating mind never accomplished any thing worth naming. There is nothing like a fixed, steady aim. It dignifies your nature and insures your success. Who have done the most for mankind? Who have secured the rarest honors? Who have raised themselves from poverty to riches? Those who were steady to their purpose. The man who is one thing to-day, and another to-morrow — who drives an idea pell-mell this week, while it drives him the next — is always in trouble, and does just nothing from one year's end to the other. Look, and admire the man of steady purpose. He moves noiselessly along; and yet, what wonders he accomplishes! He rises, gradually we grant, but surely. The heavens are not too high for him, neither are the stars beyond his reach. How worthy of imitation! — *Rural New-Yorker.*

He who falls in love with himself will find no rivals.

James F. Johnston

Professor Johnston was born in Kilmarnock, Scotland, and was educated in Glasgow University. He paid particular attention to the study of chemistry, and he improved himself in agricultural knowledge by travelling in various parts of Europe. At the foundation of Durham University, in England, he was appointed professor of chemistry and mineralogy. He was also professor of chemistry of the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland. His lectures on agricultural chemistry and geology, and various other works on agricultural science, have been circulated very extensively in this country, and in the most enlightened parts of Europe.

In 1849, he delivered the address at the annual fair of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society. In the winter following, he delivered a course of lectures before the society, and the members of the legislature, on the relation of science to practical agriculture. He also delivered a course of lectures before the Lowell Institute in this city, and before the Smithsonian Institute at Washington.

Professor Johnston ranks among the first scientific agriculturists, and his writings are well adapted to illustrate and promote correct practical agriculture; and we are pleased that they are so widely diffused, and that arrangements are making to circulate them still more extensively. C. M. Saxton, New York, has recently published, in a neat volume, the Lectures on Practical Agriculture before the N. Y. State Agricultural Society. It should have a place in the library of every agriculturist.

Professor Johnston is still in the best stage of life for collecting and disseminating useful knowledge, in a discriminating and successful manner; and we hope that the world will be further enlightened by his future labors.

FORESTS AND STREAMS.

The remarkable man Humboldt has reduced it almost to a demonstration, that the streams of a country fail in proportion to the destruction of its timber. And, of course, if the streams fail, our season will be worse; it must get drier in proportion. Every body knows, who can number twenty years back, that the watercourses have failed considerably, and that the seasons have been getting drier and drier every year. Humboldt, speaking of the valley of Argua, Venezuela, says, the lake recedes as agriculture advances, until large plantations of sugar-cane, banana, and cotton-trees were established on its banks, which, (banks,) year after year, were farther from them. After the separation of that province from Spain, and the decline of agriculture, amid the desolating wars which swept over this beautiful region, the process of clearing was arrested, the old lands grew up in trees with a rapidity common in the tropics, and in a few years the inhabitants were alarmed by a rise of the water, and the inundation of their plantations.

Let a man be treated as a brute, and he will become more brutish than a brute; but treat him as a rational being, and he will show that he is so.

Domestic Department.

Female Education. — Shame on us, that we, who boast of having raised woman, in the nineteenth century, to the position in life which she ought to hold, so educate her that not one of her powers, physical or mental, can ever attain a full and healthy action. Better go back to the days of our great grandmother, and be content with Dilworth's Spelling-Book, and Assembly's Catechism; — nay, better go to far earlier days, when neither catechism nor spelling-book detained the damsel from the distaff or the loom, than rear, for the coming generation, a race of nervous wives and sickly mothers.

When the boy runs merrily after his ball, or chases in the race, or leaps over the bound, the girl must walk demurely in the garden, because, forsooth, running, and leaping, and jumping are ungraceful in the girl. When the boy runs freely over the hills or through the woods in the summer, or coasts down the hill or skates merrily over the pond in the winter, the girl, untrusted, unbefitted, walks pensively, by the side of her teacher, to the village, or takes a two mile airing in the sleigh, once a week. She never pitches the quoit, never throws the ball, never slides down the hill, never roams through the woods, because, save the mark! these are deemed unfeminine. In fact, she never thoroughly exercises her body at all, and, in consequence, soon becomes unable to endure any kind of physical fatigue.

"Fit only for boys," said a principal of a large female institute to me, the other day, when I remonstrated with him on the importance of these and other like exercises for the girls. For boys, indeed! And has not a girl a physical system to be developed, and matured, and invigorated? Has she not fatigue to bear, obstacles to encounter, hinderances to overcome, enterprises to carry out, duties to discharge? Has she not the burden of life to carry, and its toilsome road to travel for herself? In her own sphere does she not require, through life, all the energy, strength, and endurance of which her system shall be capable? It matters not whether she is to live in the midst of fashion, or to move quietly in the circles of country life, or to find her lot on missionary ground, or to struggle against unforeseen adversity,— all that can be made of her during her years of education, physically, morally, and intellectually, she will need. To every woman, whatever situation she may occupy, life is a *fact*, stubborn, earnest, real, to be shaped and moulded by her own efforts, or to be borne and endured by her own fortitude. Happy is she who is prepared for it, not by her own despairing efforts in after life, but by the judicious, careful, and thorough discipline of early education. — *N. Y. Com. Advertiser.*

The late Mr. Colman, in his letters from Europe, speaks with admiration of the interest the wives and daughters of the farmers and landed proprietors of England manifested in every thing that appertained to agricultural improvement. They composed more than one half the audience at society gatherings, were every where present, and showed an amount of knowledge on all subjects connected with domestic economics and agriculture, (and that, too, without "o'erstepping the modesty of nature,") that rendered them not only the most interesting of teachers, but the most charming of companions. No fine points in a celebrated milker escaped their commendation, nor defects their practised eye; they were amateurs in the flavor of cheese, and discriminating critics on the merits of butter — able as well to arrange a bouquet with the most exquisite taste, as with statuesque fingers to mould butter in its most attractive form. This is as it should be. Knowledge of every thing but evil is the highest civilization, and we hope New England women will not be backward in following, to a greater extent, the admirable example of their elder sisters. — *Mass. Ploughman.*

Youth's Department.

Murderers of Parents. — This kind of murder would seem the most brutal and criminal that can be conceived. Murder is a crime of the darkest dye. It finds no apology with God or man. Yet for a person to destroy his dearest earthly friend seems worse than murder. That children and youth are ever ungrateful and unkind to parents, is unpardonable — that they bring down their gray hairs to the grave by their impiety and recklessness, is inhuman, and more than beastly. Yet the Bible speaks of and rebukes such sins — "murderers of fathers, and murderers of mothers!"

In the first place, a violent destruction of life is not necessary to constitute murder. John says, "Whoso hateth his brother is a murderer;" that is, has the spirit of a murderer. Children sometimes do more than this, however. They bitterly destroy their fathers and mothers by their conduct. How, then, may this be done? let us here enquire.

First. A young man may murder his parents *by the choice of his companions.*

Good parents feel the deepest solicitude for the moral training of their children. They know that the society of the idle and irreligious will corrupt and ruin their children. Indeed, they know that they are already contaminated, when they seek such companions. The "plague spot" on their character is thus revealed. The parent shudders at the thought that his child has chosen the vile and profane for companions. He knows that he has entered the path that conducts to ruin, and sees him, in fearful anticipations, about to be ingulfed in the awful abyss. Especially does this thought sap the life-blood of the parents, when the child has ceased to listen to kind admonitions and anxious warnings. Then it is that anguish fills his heart; early gray hairs cover his head; deep furrows plough his forehead, and a premature grave receives his body, worn out by the care, grief, and anguish caused by the anticipated profligate life of a wayward child.

Second. A young man may murder his father and mother by *immoral and unprofitable conduct.*

This is often done by the anticipation of such a result. But how much more heart-rending and dreadful, that the beloved child is actually contaminated! that his innocence has gone, his heart is hardened, and he has become an abandoned prodigal! Were an assassin to plunge a dagger into the parent's bosom, it would be kind in comparison with the murderous influence of such conduct of their child. They remember his innocent infancy and childhood, his fondness for his parents, his obedience and gratitude, and all that endeared him to his loving parents. They see him now, O, how changed! He has cut himself away from home influences, become profane and dissipated, and is hastening on to certain destruction. What a terrible termination of a parent's fond hopes! How much worse to bear than death by any other means!

Youthful readers, are you becoming the murderers of your fathers and mothers? — *Aurora of the Valley.*

Health Department.

PEPPER. — One of the most useful vegetables in hygiene is red pepper. Especially in warm countries has it been considered invaluable as a stimulant and auxiliary in digestion. Among the Spanish and French races it is used in the largest quantities, and they invariably enjoy most excellent health. Of late, particularly since the cholera visited our state, our planters have begun to discover the virtues of this vegetable, and mingle large quantities of it with the food of their negroes. Considerable attention has been drawn to the selection and cultivation of the best kinds of pepper. Among those who have appreciated the importance of this vegetable is that admirable planter, and exceedingly practical gentleman, Col. Maunsel White, the proprietor of "Deer Range," commonly known as the model sugar plantation. Col. White has introduced the celebrated tobacco red pepper, the very strongest of all peppers, of which he has cultivated a large quantity, with a view of supplying his neighbors, and diffusing it through the state. The tobacco pepper yields a small red pod, less than an inch in length, and longitudinal in shape. It is exceedingly hot, and but a small quantity of it is sufficient to pepper a large dish of any food. Owing to its oleaginous character, Col. White found it impossible to preserve it by drying; but by pouring strong vinegar on it after boiling, he has made a sauce or pepper decoction of it, which possesses, in a most concentrated and intense form, all the qualities of the vegetable. A single drop of this sauce will flavor a whole plate of soup or other food. The use of a decoction like this, particularly in preparing the food for laboring persons, would be found exceedingly beneficial in a relaxing climate like this. Col. White has not had a single case of cholera among his large gang of negroes since that disease appeared in the south. He attributes this to the free use of this valuable agent. — *N. O. Delta.*

Mechanics' Department, Arts, &c.

COATING IRON WITH COPPER. — To coat iron with copper, as well as it has long been done by tin, has occupied the attention of many inventors for centuries. Their labors have uniformly failed of success. They have produced a mechanical union between the copper and tin, such as by the electrotype process, but for all truly useful purposes no good result was produced; no coppering of the iron by a chemical union was ever accomplished until within a short period, and a knowledge of this discovery has been known to but a very few. The discoverer is Mr. Pomeroy, of Covington, Ky., who secured, after no little trouble, a patent for the same on the 8th of last January. We have seen samples of plate iron (one of which is in our office) coppered and finished by Mr. Pomeroy's process. Unless the edge of the plate was seen, no one could tell that it was any thing but a copper plate. The application of this discovery to the coating of iron, so as to make it more durable, and render its application to various branches of art more expansive, makes it one of the most valuable discoveries of this or any other age. The iron can be coated with any thickness of copper, and spikes for ship-building have been tested, as we have been told, and found to answer as well as those made entirely of copper. As a matter of economy, then, this discovery will greatly cheapen the price of sailing vessels. For boilers, roofing, coating of pipes, covering iron with the precious metals, harness plating, &c., this discovery is singularly applicable, and will be the means of increasing the general comforts of the human race. — *Scientific American.*

WATER-PROOF CLOTH. — The best water-proof cloth made is that of India rubber; no other cloth can equal it. Oil cloth comes next in order. Woollen and cotton cloth may be rendered nearly water-proof by dipping them in a solution of alum and the sulphate of copper. These two substances should be used in about equal quantities. The cloth should be dried in a warm room afterwards. If cotton cloth is dipped into a very weak solution of glue, and afterwards into a hot and strong solution of alum, and then dried at a high temperature, a very good water-proof cloth is the result, ay, and one that is nearly incombustible. — *Scientific American.*

ROUGH FODDER.

MR. EDITOR: I do not know whether many of your agricultural readers make much account of their "rough fodder," that is, of their top and but stalks, &c., but one thing I can assert, and without fear of contradiction, I think, by any who have economized this species of feed, and that is, it is much too valuable to be lost. Every farmer should keep on his farm a sufficiency of the various kinds of stock to consume all the vegetable matter his lands produce. In this way he will greatly augment his resources, and at all times be supplied with that most essential requisite to successful agricultural enterprise — an abundance of manure. The belief entertained by many, that there is no nutriment in cornstalks, after the corn has been matured, is altogether a false assumption; it rests wholly on fallacious data, and should be abjured at once as unworthy of a moment's thought. If we take the stalks of Indian corn, and pass them through a chaffing machine, mix them with a small quantity of rasped ruta baga, carrot, or beet root, and a little water, with just sufficient *salt* to season them well, and feed them to stock, we shall find that the animals will not only hold their own, but actually increase in weight. This demonstrates the actual existence of nutritive matter in this species of fodder, and in large quantity; for the small additament of rasped root can be but a slight accession to the alimentary power of the feed, as but a small quantity is supplied; the object being not so much to augment the nutritiousness of the mass by commixing it, as to give a more sapent flavor thereto, and to correct, in some measure, any unpleasant taste which may have been engendered by mould, or the imperfect curing of the fodder, in the field or barn. It has now become quite common in many sections to allow the top stalks to remain till the corn is taken from the field, as the filling of the grain is believed to be more perfectly accomplished under this system of management, than it is when the tops are removed. Of course the top stalks are less valuable as fodder; but they are by no means valueless. Chaffed in this manner, they are eagerly devoured by most animals; and a great advantage resulting from chaffing is, there is no waste or loss. Every particle is consumed, and thus all the products of the farm, which have required manure for their support, are converted to an economical use, and in process of time are again resolved into the food of plants. By having a chaffing machine, and a machine for rasping roots, and

one for crushing corn-cobs, all of which cost but a mere trifle, compared with their actual intrinsic value, a farmer may make an immense saving in the course of a year.

A PRACTICAL FARMER.

— *Germantown Telegraph.*

DOMESTIC FOWLS.

The quality, that is, the fineness, juiciness, and richness of flavor of the flesh of domestic fowls, is of much more importance than their size; and I consequently reject all coarse-meated fowls, however large they may be. There is no difficulty in discriminating between coarse and fine fowls, at any time. When chickens, if the down is straight and stands out, and the body and limbs are loosely jointed, the meat is coarse; but if the down is glossy, and lies close to the body, and the body and limbs are compactly formed, the meat is fine;—and when grown, if the fowl is light in weight, in proportion to its size, the flesh is coarse; but if heavy, the flesh is fine. There is, also, a *fitness* in the quality of the flesh; for, if the meat is fine, the bones are fine, and *vice versa*. If the flesh is fine, it is juicy and richly flavored; if coarse, dry, fibrous, and insipid. The color of the legs, too, is quite material in judging of the quality of fowls. All other things being equal, dark-legged fowls have the finest flesh, and are most hardy. Turkeys, which have the finest flesh of all fowls of their size, have black legs; pheasants, partridges, and quails, all of which are very fine-fleshed fowls, have dark legs; the game cock, likewise, which is universally acknowledged to be the finest-fleshed of all the domestic fowls, except the wild India fowl of Calcutta, has dark legs; and this is equally true of the wild India fowl itself, the specific gravity of which, likewise, exceeds that of any other fowl. I do not wish to be understood, however, to say that all dark-legged fowls are fine, or that all yellow or white-legged ones are coarse, for much depends on the breed; but I do say, that the darkest leg which pertains to the breed, indicates the finest fowl. For instance, the Shanghae or Cochin China fowls, "of the pure blood," always have their legs of a bright red and yellow mixture, beautifully shaded together. Now, if you wish to select a fine fowl of this breed, choose one of the darkest shade of these colors. The great Java fowl, of pure blood, uniformly has black or very dark legs; and if you wish a fine-fleshed one of this breed, select one with the blackest legs. The black Poland fowl, of pure blood, has white or blue legs. Select the blue for the finest, that is, select the darkest of the natural color, whatever that color may be. Fowl fanciers always select yellow legs; but fowl-eaters, that is, those who regard the quality of the bird, select dark legs. The color of the feathers, too, has more or less to do with the quality of the fowl. Some breeds have much more brilliant plumage than others; but when we speak of the brilliancy of the plumage, we mean in comparison with others of the same breed. If, therefore, you select a fowl of rich and glossy plumage, when compared with others of the same breed, depend upon it, the legs will be dark of the kind, and the quality of the bird will excel.

PULVERIZED WOOD FOR CATTLE.

About three years since, I had occasion to send my cart-horses frequently through a piece of coppice wood, and whenever it happened that they stopped within reach of the rods, they would greedily devour every bough they could come at. This I noticed many times. At last I was led to examine the rods on which I had seen them feeding, and found them completely stripped of their branches, some of which were of a very considerable thickness. This led me to suppose that there must be some good qualities in the wood, and this consideration induced me to get some pulverized, and give it to my cart-horses; which experiment was repeated at several different times, until I was fully satisfied that it had no injurious effect upon them. After this, I was led to give it to my gig-horses with their corn; and having ascertained that it did them no injury, I had machinery prepared for reducing the wood for the purpose of food, and began to feed both cart and gig horses, as also my cows and pigs, mixing a portion with all that was given them.

This practice I have continued for the last ten months. Previously to feeding my horses in this way, they had each six quarts of oats and beans given them per day, for which is now substituted three pints of barley per day. They are in equally fine condition as when fed in the usual way, and more playful and free in their work. Soon after the wood was mixed with the fodder given to the cows, their milk, as well as their condition, was much improved. For several weeks past, I have been feeding sheep with the pulverized wood, together with crushed Swedish turnips, and they also appear to improve by it. I have likewise fatted four pigs successively, mixing this food with barley meal, and the results have proved most satisfactory.— *Mr. Daniels, in Chamber's Journal.*

The statement, however strange it may sound, is not so startling, when we remember that the woody matter of trees is, in its chemical nature, nearly allied to starch, and that it always contains some nitrogen; so that, in reality, it furnishes the ordinary materials of food in another form. We presume, however, that white-wooded, not resinous, trees are those which furnish Mr. Daniels's cattle with the ligneous pulp they thrive so well upon. — *Ohio Family Visitor.*

CURE FOR A BELLOWSED HORSE.

Some few weeks since, being overtaken by a severe thunder storm on my way home, I took refuge under a shelter where were assembled several gentlemen from the same cause. One of the gentlemen thus accosted me: "Why do you not cure your horse of the bellows?" "For the very reason that I cannot," I replied.

"Well, stranger," says he, "when I am at home, I cure all such cases, and warrant them, at ten dollars a head; but as I am a long way from home, and your horse is a valuable one, I will tell you how you can cure him effectually in a few days. In the first place," says he, "give your horse salt in his water for three mornings in succession; after that, pound up a piece of blue-stone about the size of a chinquepin, and mix it with wet meal; give him the same for ten consecutive mornings, feeding him rather lightly for those ten days; and if he is not well at the end of the ten days, I will give you my head."

I have tried the remedy, and it has wrought a perfect cure; and I now give it to the readers of the Enquirer, that they may save their ten dollars too.— *Columbus Enquirer.*

Any one may do a casual act of good nature, but a continuation of them shows it is a part of the temperament.

THE FIRST OHIO STATE FAIR — A NEW ERA IN THE AGRICULTURE OF OHIO.

Well, the State Fair is over, and the tens of thousands of farmers, mechanics, and others who assembled at "Camp Washington," during the memorable three days, to witness the triumphs of productive industry, have returned to their homes, well pleased, we trust, with the exhibition, and inspired with new resolutions in favor of *progress and improvement*. Certain we are that the heart of every true Ohioan must have glowed with pride and exultation in view of what was there shown as already accomplished by the industry and skill of his noble state, and the assurance of greater things to be accomplished in the future.

The weather was highly propitious for the Fair. The number of persons in attendance was very great; fully equalling our expectations. At times, we should judge, there were from twenty to thirty thousand people on the ground, and probably not less than forty to fifty thousand entered the enclosure during the exhibition. The low stage of water in the Ohio River prevented thousands from attending who would otherwise have been there; and we learn that it was found impossible to convey all upon the railroad who wish to go by that mode from Springfield downwards.

The amount of receipts from the sale of tickets and badges, including exhibiter's fees, was about $8000; to which may be added receipts from subscriptions of citizens of Cincinnati, say $1600, and from sale of lumber, &c., $1400; — total receipts, about $11,000.

The beauty and fitness of the grounds, and the liberal and convenient arrangements of the committee, were admired and commended by all. The spectacle presented to the beholder during the height of the Fair was very grand and animating. The spacious enclosure, with its grassy slopes and inviting shade trees; its numerous tents and booths with waving flags and streamers; the throngs of cheerful spectators; the countless carriages, omnibuses and canal boats, all moving and swarming with people; the prancing horses, and lines of stately cattle, the whirl and clatter of machinery, and the sound of martial music, — all combined to produce an effect on the minds of spectators not easily forgotten by such as never before attended an exhibition of the kind. — *Ohio Cultivator.*

BENEFITS OF AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

Horace Greely, of the New York Tribune, in writing from the N. Y. State Fair, thus speaks of the utility of such exhibitions: —

"There cannot be less than two or three hundred different kinds of agricultural implements on exhibition here — horse-rakes, cultivators, straw-cutters, subsoil and other ploughs, new beehives, horse-power saws, &c., &c. I have considered this altogether the most important feature of the Fair. A great ox may be reared by a greater fool; but no man who ever worked a year at farming can spend a day among the implements and inventions without being stimulated to *think*. The great end of all such exhibitions is an improvement of the breed of farmers — of men. Now, the man who has been skimming over a hundred acres of land for the last twenty or thirty years, ploughing six inches deep, manuring with his good wishes, and growing fifteen or twenty bushels of corn to the acre, cannot spend a day in one of these Fair enclosures without being startled and ashamed. These subsoil ploughs, one of which, properly used, would double his product of corn and vegetables, and in dry seasons treble it — these straw-cutters, with one of which his scanty crop of hay might have been made, with the aid of straw, stalks, &c., to winter his stock bountifully — these cultivators, seed-planters, horse-rakes, and other labor-saving implements, must set him thinking.

"What sort of crop do those farmers obtain who use such implements? Who make the most by farming — the fifteen or the fifty bushel corn-growers? What sort of farmers is it who are able to buy land when any is for sale low for cash? What sort of farming leaves land in a condition to sell advantageously? These questions arise spontaneously in the simplest minds, and they can be answered. I don't believe a farmer can attend three successive Fairs and not resolve to farm better through all his life afterwards."

SUGGESTIONS FOR FARMERS.

If you have any bean straw, do not permit it to be wasted, but feed it to your sheep. These animals are remarkably fond of it, and will partake of it freely when they refuse the best English hay, or even grain. It is sometimes passed through a chaffing machine, and fed to them while suckling their lambs; but I consider this superfluous, as I have never yet known them to refuse it even when they have been too sick to partake of other food. Mouldy beans may be cleansed, freed from their disagreeable odor, and rendered excellent feed for sheep, simply by pouring hot water over them. If not very strongly tainted, they may possibly be rendered fit for culinary purposes.

Peas that are "buggy" make an excellent feed for swine. The nutritive matter contained in the pea is greater, per pound, than that of any other vegetable, and when ground into meal, or mollified by soaking, it becomes one of the best articles for fattening swine possible to be obtained. Peas which have "bugs" in them are utterly unfit for human food; and there is no disposing of them in the market; so that, all things considered, their appropriation in this manner is the most economical that can be devised.

Yards. — See that all your yards are now replenished with some substance that will absorb and retain the liquid excrement voided by your animals during the fall and winter. It will subserve a double purpose — furnish a good bed for the animals to repose on before the snow falls, and during the cold, chilling nights of the later autumn, and supply an excellent manure for your field crops in the spring. More attention should be accorded to this subject, and I trust farmers will soon awake to fresh application of its importance, and graduate their course accordingly.

B.

— *Germantown Telegraph.*

A NEW AND ECONOMICAL MODE OF FORCING VEGETABLES.

It has been suggested by a foreign paper, that the waste steam of manufactories may be advantageously applied to the roots of plants; and without any expense for artificial heat, large quantities of tropical fruits and vegetables may be raised at all times, besides such of our own as we can otherwise have in perfection only during the summer months. A series of common draining tile, laid within suitable distances underneath properly prepared beds, containing the plants, which should admit or shut off the exhausted steam by cocks, would be all that is necessary for the underground arrangements. Moisture would be thus communicated as well as heat, and a slight covering of wood, or brick, and glass, to protect the plants from frosts or cold air, would be all that is essential to securing the most prolific growth. — *Rural New-Yorker.*

CATTLE.

Few people are aware that it is nearly as easy to alter the frame of our cattle as it is to alter the style of our dwellings. John Bull, for instance, has gone on to improving his oxen until he has got a breed almost without legs. From the returns of the last census, it is safe to say that 1,000,000 cows are now milked in this state, which are supposed to yield about $20 per head. To improve these up to an average annual product of $31 each, (that is, to one half what the best large dairies in the country now yield,) would add $12,000,000 to the income of the citizens of a single state. This gain, by the improvement of one kind of rural machinery, would be equivalent to creating a capital of $200,000,000, and placing the money where it would yield over six per cent. interest in perpetuity. If the thirty millions of sheep in the United States gave as good returns in wool for the food consumed as the best hundred thousand now do, it would add at least sixty million pounds to the annual clip of this important staple. There are not far from six million horses and mules in the United States; and it is not too much to say, that in a few generations these animals may be improved full $30 a head on an average. If so, the gain by this increase of muscular power, and its greater durability, will be $180,000,000. If we study critically the machinery for converting grass, roots, and grain into beef and pork, the difference is found to be still more striking. If the facts relating to this subject were spread before the people, great improvement would soon follow, and all classes share equally in the profits of more productive labor. — *Albany Knickerbocker.*

THE GUINEA HEN.

The Guinea hen, or Pentado, is near an everlasting layer. They are said to unite the properties of the turkey and the pheasant. They are a native of Africa, though said by some to belong equally to this country, and are easily domesticated. Its flesh is more like that of the pheasant than the common fowl, both in color and taste, and is reckoned a very good substitute for that bird. It assimilates perfectly with the common fowl in its artificial habits and kinds of food. Its gait is peculiar, as are also its cries. They are fond of marshy places — always perch during the night in high situations or on trees. It is a little singular that American farmers do not turn their attention to these fowls. A knowing Jerseyman, named David Bonner, from England, hired a patch of five acres four years ago, and commenced raising eggs for the New York market. — Bonner has never hired any help, and at this moment owns a farm, for which he paid $4700, of which the buildings cost over $3000. His farm is all paid for, he owes not a cent in the world, and he owns a flock which varies from 800 to 1200 Guinea hens. — *Suffolk Democrat.*

PLANTING TREES.

The most remarkable, if not the most culpable neglect — that which indicates an unamiable and uncultivated, as well as an improvident nature — is the omission, on the part of gentlemen in the country, to plant trees about their homesteads, for shade and ornament, if not for fruit and profit. Let any one who would be convinced how easy it would be to provide, in a few years, even in the most exposed and barren situations, all the beauty and luxury of a natural forest, only walk as far as the Lunatic Asylum, between Spruce and Pine Streets, Philadelphia, and see how thriving is every one of the handsome trees so thoughtfully planted out there last autumn, at the instance of Mr. Cresson, in anticipation of the failure, some years hence, of the old sycamores. The work is only to be once well done, and the trees well protected, and then they may be left to endure forever, as monuments of the good taste of the planter, transmitting his memory with gratitude to posterity.

We remember now, at the moment of scribbling this hasty but earnest exhortation to all young friends to plant trees, — maples, horsechestnuts, locusts, linden-trees, (any thing but Lombardy poplars,) — that there is in the garden, near the house at Douraghn Manor, Maryland, the classic residence of the late venerable Charles Carroll of Carrollton, a weeping-willow, stately and graceful, like her who placed it when a child, that will always be associated with the name of Mrs. Caton. How much more are such memorials to be coveted, than monuments stained with blood, and cemented with the tears of the widow and the orphan! — *The Plough, Loom, and Anvil.*

RYE — WHEAT.

We received, several days since, from Mr. B. F. S. Griffin, of West Newbury, a bag of the most beautiful white rye we have ever seen, and, since then, have fully tried its value. Served up at the table in the form of pancakes, it is food fit for the table of a queen, and nutritious and healthful far beyond any preparations of wheat flour. It is well known that the northern nations of Europe, even the Germans, subsist principally on rye, making comparatively but a limited use of wheat and potatoes. We have often thought, in view of the poor, dark-colored rye which is seen in this country, that they were to be pitied for the coarse and hard fare upon which they fed, although it might be pronounced wholesome food. If, however, they have an article of rye any thing to be compared to that which Mr. Griffin has produced, our epicures may envy rather than pity them. Mr. Griffin has been quite successful in growing wheat and rye. He informs us that he has measured his wheat, and found the product fifteen bushels to one bushel of sowing, or at the rate of thirty bushels to the acre. His rye produced twelve bushels to one bushel sown.

The potato fails us so frequently, that our New England farms are in danger of becoming sadly depreciated in value, unless some improvements in husbandry are adopted. We are strong in the belief that it is time for our farmers to bestir themselves in this matter, and pay less attention to the potato, and more to other substitutes for food. We learn that many of them are about to sow wheat this season. — We do not see why this section of the country cannot grow wheat as well as the old lands of Europe, which have been laid down to it for many generations. Let the experiment be tried, and liberal rewards offered for those who succeed best in keeping off the rust and the weevil, its two great enemies. If wheat fails, then why not try rye, barley, and buckwheat, as a substitute for the potato? In Pennsylvania, Western New York, and Ohio, on the best wheat land in the country, the farmers use only a limited quantity of their own wheat, and grow fat and hearty on rye and buckwheat and barley cakes. All that we need is, that the farmers should understand the cultivation, the millers the preparation, and the girls become adepts in cooking these, to supply our tables with more nourishing and healthful food than we now have. We do not know but the potato rot may be sent to save men from indolence in the

cultivation and cooking of their food. The potato has been so easily cultivated and readily cooked, that it has, perhaps, attained an undue importance. — *Newburyport Herald.*

GOLDEN RULES OF LIFE.

All the air and the exercise in the universe, and the most generous and liberal table, but poorly suffice to maintain human stamina if we neglect other coöperatives — namely, the obedience to the laws of abstinence, and those of ordinary gratification. We rise with a headache, and we set about puzzling ourselves to know the cause. We then recollect that we had a hard day's fag, or that we feasted overbounteously, or that we staid up very late; at all events, we incline to find out the fault, and then we call ourselves fools for falling into it. Now, this is an occurrence happening almost every day; and these are the points that run away with the best portion of our life, before we find out what is for good or evil. Let any single individual review his past life, — how instantaneously the blush will cover his cheek, when he thinks of the egregious errors he has unknowingly committed! — say unknowingly, because it never occurred to him that they were errors until the effects followed, that betrayed the cause. All our sickness and ailments, and a brief life, mainly depend upon ourselves. There are thousands who practise errors day after day, and whose pervading thought is, that every thing which is agreeable and pleasing cannot be hurtful. The slothful man loves his bed; the toper his drink, because it throws him into an exhilarative and exquisite mood; the gormand makes his stomach his god; and the sensualist thinks his delights imperishable. So we go on, and at last we stumble and break down. We then begin to reflect, and the truth stares us in the face, how much we are to blame. — *Canadian Agriculturist.*

HOW TO CULTIVATE THE APRICOT.

A sound, practical article from the editor, recommends as the chief requisite for success, and to prevent the frequent loss of the trees from various causes, — First. To keep the trees low, and to head back the shoots in spring, avoiding the practice of trimming up to a naked stem, and thus exposing the bark to the action of the hot sun. Second. To provide a deep, well-drained soil, well fertilized with wood ashes. Third. To plant in a cool aspect, to prevent the too early swelling of the buds, and their consequent danger from spring frosts. Fourth. To prevent the loss of the young crop by daily jarring down the curculio on spread sheets. Where only half a dozen trees are cultivated, there is no mode of making war upon this insect so sure and reliable as jarring the trees daily during the month of May, with a pounder, (sheathed at the end with India rubber,) gathering the insects upon the sheets and destroying them. The experience of a correspondent is added, that though previously unable to depend on his trees for a single apricot, after putting the jarring system into practice, he actually obtained three thousand most beautiful and luscious apricots, the first season of trial, from five trees. — *Albany Cultivator.*

The potato disease is making fearful ravages in some parts of France; more so than during the last two years.

NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

The Marriage Ring; or, How to make Home Happy. From the writings of John Angel James. — This is a most beautiful little work, both in typography and binding; and the good advice it contains corresponds with its fine appearance, and is admirably adapted to *making home happy.* Boston: Gould & Lincoln, 59 Washington St.

Address before the Cincinnati Horticultural Society, by Edward D. Mansfield, Esq. — A very interesting work on the history and progress of horticulture.

Address before the Mass. Charitable Mechanics' Association, at their sixth exhibition, by J. S. Skinner. — This is an able work, by a veteran agriculturist, showing the advantages of *association*, and the intimate connection and dependence of the different industrial classes on each other.

A Treatise on Grape Culture, in Vineyards in the vicinity of Cincinnati, by R. Buchanan, Esq. — We are indebted to friend Ernst, president of the Cincinnati Horticultural Society, for this instructive work.

The Agriculturist's Guide and Almanac, for 1850. New York: James G. Reed. — Besides the usual astronomical calculations, and other matters common to almanacs, this work contains a variety of agricultural matter, and a blank memoranda for every day in the year. It is beautifully illustrated, and bound in a neat, compact form, convenient for preservation.

Monthly Family Circle, and Parlor Annual. — This is a very interesting magazine. Each number contains thirty-six octavo pages, is printed on good paper, and contains a splendid steel plate engraving, and a fine wood cut or colored flower, and occasionally music. Price only one dollar per year. New York: James G. Reed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Of John Washburn, Plymouth, Holton Sweeting apple; very large, fair, and handsome; remarkably tender, and of excellent quality. Also, the Loring Sweeting. We have occasionally seen this fruit, and though of superior quality, we have objected to it for want of fairness and sufficient size. Perhaps we ought to have blamed the culture, for these specimens are very large, nearly a foot in circumference, and very fair. This variety is not yet in use. It is a winter apple, of excellent quality. Almost every thing comes to its highest state of perfection under the skilful management of friend Washburn.

From A. S. Sweetser, Cumberland Centre, Me., apples for a name. They are the Moody apple, formerly considerably cultivated about Portsmouth, N. H., and it is still very popular in that market; but of late it is not propagated much, as it is apt to fall, as Mr. Sweetser remarks, and it is rather a poor

bearer. This is its general reputation. The fruit is quite large, nearly round, very fair, yellow ground, mostly covered with red; the cavity is nearly full, and many of the specimens have a very prominent protuberance on one side of the stem; in some cases this fleshy prominence projects considerably above the base. This is a distinguishing characteristic. — We have seen them in this market selling at good prices. The quality is very good. Late fall and early winter.

From J. Cummings Haskell, Rockport, large cranberries, of a singular form, being nearly *square*, the corners only slightly rounded. The largest berries are seven eighths of an inch in length, and two and a half inches in circumference. They were raised in a meadow, without artificial culture.

Of Lovett Pratt, Amherst, N. H., fair-looking sweet apples, good for baking, but rather tough and dry for table use.

From Simon Burnham, Hollis, Me., winter apples, large, fair, and remarkably handsome; which we will notice further when in season.

Of Anthony Hatch, Saugus, very fine-looking apples, rather large, mostly bright red, and very handsome. The quality is pretty good.

From Isaac Steer, Burrillville, R. I., a box of excellent apples. They are large, flat, golden yellow, crisp, juicy, and of a fine, sprightly, aromatic flavor. This is a good-looking apple, and one of the finest in quality that we have tasted this fall. If its habits are good, it is worthy of cultivation. In use in October.

From Andrew Lackey, Marblehead, very handsome specimens of the Compte de Lamy pear. This is an excellent fruit, and we have noticed it at several exhibitions, and it has been remarkably fair. Also, Pierce apple. This fruit is rather small, of fair appearance, and middling quality.

Of Jonathan Fowler, Salisbury, Beefsteak apple. It is of medial size, very handsome, and of pretty good quality. Generally in use late in fall and early in winter. It originated in Amsbury. Also, Glout Morceau and Urbaniste pears.

Since we noticed some St. Michael pears, from J. L. Lovering, Hartford, Vt., another variety has ripened, of excellent quality; but we cannot determine as to the name from a single specimen. We should be pleased to have six or eight fair specimens another season.

The apple No. 2, from Leonard Cheney, Southbridge, is the Hubbardston Nonsuch. A very good fruit, and quite popular in this market. The other variety is not yet in use.

From Cyrus K. Moore, Parsonsfield, Me., apples that strongly resemble the Porter in their general apppearance. They are not quite so large as the Porter, but the quality is fully equal to that popular apple. It ripens about the same time. Also, fine specimens of Louise Bon de Jersey pear.

Fruits from Mr. Elliot, of Greenfield, and Mr. Gwynneth, Portland, will be noticed in our next.

THE FARMER'S BOY.

BY FRANCES D. GAGE.

O, a jovial farmer boy I'll be,
As free as the birds that sing,
And carol my merry song of glee
Among the flowers of spring.
With a whoop who hoy, to drive my team,
Before the rising sun,
To slake their thirst in the silvery stream,
Shall be my morning's fun; —

To see the hungry porker fed,
And hear him grunt his thanks;
To rouse the calves from their grassy bed,
To shake their drowsy flanks;
To draw from the generous cow her store,
With young hands strong and free,
Till the brimming pail is running o'er
With the foaming luxury; —

To haste to the garden with hoe and seed,
While the dew is on the spray,
To plant, to trim, to hoe, and weed
The morning hours away;
To raise the flowers for the honey-bee,
With their petals bright and fair;
O, I love the budding flowers to see,
In my garden here and there; —

Or away to the fields with the reapers hie,
And toil the livelong day,
And think of the happy time when I
Shall be a man — as they,
To plough, to harrow, to plant, and sow
The rich and fertile lands;
To reap and bind, to pitch and mow,
With strong and willing hands.

O, I would not live in the crowded town,
With its pavements hard and gray,
And its lengthened streets of dusty brown,
And its painted houses gay, —
Where every boy his ball may bound
Upon his neighbor's dome,
And every shout and every sound
Disturbs some other's home.

The squirrel that leaps from limb to limb,
In the forest waving high,
Or the lark that soars with its matin hymn,
Is not more free than I.
Then give me the trade of a farmer boy,
From city trammels free,
And I crack my whip, and cry, "Who hoy!"
O, a farmer boy I'll be!

—*Ohio Cultivator.*

TERMS. — THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER is published every other Saturday, making a neat and handsome volume, at the close of the year, of 416 pages, at $1 a year, or five copies for $4, payable in advance. It may be elegantly bound in muslin, embossed and gilt, at 25 cents a volume, if left at this office. As it is stereotyped, back numbers can be furnished to new subscribers.

THE POSTAGE

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